



2017 JULY CALENDAR

WACHUSETT MOUNTAIN STATE RESERVATION

Visitor Service Supervisor: Nick Wisniewski Park Phone Number: 978-464-2987

Visitor Center located at: 345 Mountain Road, Princeton, MA 01541

All programs are free and open to the public, however there is a \$5 fee to drive to the summit (\$6 for non-MA vehicles.)

Reasonable accommodations available upon request. All children must be accompanied by an adult.

Outdoor programs will not run (or may be held in the Visitor Center) if there is heavy rain or thunderstorms. Minimum 2 attendees for programs to run. Check program description for meeting location. Programs subject to change. Call park or visit

<http://www.mass.gov/eea/agencies/dcr/massparks/region-central/wachusett-mountain-state-reservation.html> for more information.

Sunday	Mon	Tues	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 <u>Special Event:</u> Massachusetts Walking Tour Free Concert 6:00pm-8:00pm <u>Weekend Summit Series:</u> The Forest Before Us 10:00 – 10:45am Wild! Life on the Mountain 11:00 – 11:45am Great Hill Detectives 12:30 – 1:15pm A “Peak” Back in Time 1:30 - 2:15pm
2 <u>Weekend Summit Series</u> The Forest Before Us 10:00 – 10:45am Wild! Life on the Mountain 11:00 – 11:45am Great Hill Detectives 12:30 – 1:15pm A “Peak” Back in Time 1:30 - 2:15pm	3	4	5 Walk A Lot Here Beginners 6:00pm – 8:00pm	6 Tree I.D. Walk 1:30pm-3:30pm	7 Kidleidoscope 10:00 – 11:00am	8 <u>Weekend Summit Series:</u> The Forest Before Us 10:00 – 10:45am Wild! Life on the Mountain 11:00 – 11:45am Great Hill Detectives 12:30 – 1:15pm A “Peak” Back in Time 1:30 - 2:15pm

Sunday	Mon	Tues	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
9 <u>Weekend Summit Series:</u> The Forest Before Us 10:00 – 10:45am Wild! Life on the Mountain 11:00 – 11:45am Great Hill Detectives 12:30 – 1:15pm A “Peak” Back in Time 1:30 - 2:15pm	10	11	12 Walk A Lot Here Beginners 6:00pm – 8:00pm	13 Tree I.D. Walk 1:30pm-3:30pm	14 Kidleidoscope 10:00 – 11:00am	15 <u>Special Program:</u> “In the Footsteps of a Giant: Henry David Thoreau at Wachusett Mountain” 11:00am – 1:00pm
16 <u>Weekend Summit Series:</u> The Forest Before Us 10:00 – 10:45am Wild! Life on the Mountain 11:00 – 11:45am Great Hill Detectives 12:30 – 1:15pm A “Peak” Back in Time 1:30 - 2:15pm	17	18	19 Walk A Lot Here Beginners 6:00pm – 8:00pm	20	21 Kidleidoscope 10:00 – 11:00am	22 <u>Weekend Summit Series:</u> The Forest Before Us 10:00 – 10:45am Wild! Life on the Mountain 11:00 – 11:45am Great Hill Detectives 12:30 – 1:15pm A “Peak” Back in Time 1:30 - 2:15pm
23 <u>Weekend Summit Series:</u> The Forest Before Us 10:00 – 10:45am Wild! Life on the Mountain 11:00 – 11:45am Great Hill Detectives 12:30 – 1:15pm A “Peak” Back in Time 1:30 - 2:15pm	24	25	26 Walk A Lot Here Beginners 6:00pm – 8:00pm	27 Tree I.D. Walk 1:30pm-3:30pm	28 Kidleidoscope 10:00 – 11:00am	29 <u>Weekend Summit Series:</u> The Forest Before Us 10:00 – 10:45am Wild! Life on the Mountain 11:00 – 11:45am Great Hill Detectives 12:30 – 1:15pm A “Peak” Back in Time 1:30 - 2:15pm
30 <u>Weekend Summit Series:</u> The Forest Before Us 10:00 – 10:45am Wild! Life on the Mountain 11:00 – 11:45am Great Hill Detectives 12:30 – 1:15pm A “Peak” Back in Time 1:30 - 2:15pm	31					

VISITOR CENTER AND SUMMIT PARKWAY

<p>Visitor Center Hours</p> <p>Opens daily at 8:00am Closes at 5:30pm <i>(Please note: closing times may vary.)</i></p>	<p>The Visitor Center highlights the story of Wachusett Mountain through exhibits focused on natural history and features of the mountain.</p> <p>A limited number of Discovery Backpacks are available to borrow while you visit the park. These contain fun and educational items to help families with children discover nature while hiking. Inquire at the Information Desk when you arrive if interested.</p> <p>The Visitor Center is wheelchair accessible. Free admission. Guided tours are available for groups with advance notice.</p>
<p>Summit Parkway</p>	<p>The road to top of the mountain is open daily (through October 29) from 9:00am to sunset. There is a \$5 fee to access the road to the summit (\$6 for non-Massachusetts vehicles).</p>

PROGRAM DESCRIPTIONS

<p>Walk A Lot Here: Beginners</p> <p><i>(A fitness hiking program.)</i></p>	<p>If you're new to hiking or want to explore the different trails of Wachusett Mountain as part of a guided group, this program may be for you! Guided by the Park Interpreter, the program introduces beginners to the joy of hiking. A different route is explored each week, and some hikes are more strenuous than others. You will have the chance to experience the challenge of steep terrain and rocky trails or the ease of gentler slopes and unpaved roads, depending on our route. Most routes involve walking over rocks and roots as well as going uphill, occasionally steeply. Hikes are approximately 1.5 hours and cover 2 to 2.5 miles, depending on terrain. Wear comfortable clothes and sturdy shoes, and bring water. Bring insect repellent if you choose. <i>This program is for adults.</i></p> <p>Meet at the Visitor Center. From the Visitor Center we will travel in our individual vehicles to the trailhead for that day's hike. Hike routes will vary. Call for information and weather cancellations.</p>
<p>KIDleidoscope</p> <p><i>(An indoor/ outdoor activity for young children.)</i></p>	<p>Join us for this fun, hands-on, outdoor experience for children 3 – 6 years of age. Siblings are always welcome! You'll hear a story, participate in an activity, and make a craft to take home with you. This program is designed to help young children understand the natural world around them. Parent/adult guardian must accompany all children. This program takes place at the Visitor Center.</p>

<p><u>Weekend Summit Series</u></p> <p><i>(A series of outdoor talks on the mountaintop.)</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>The Forest Before Us</i> • <i>Wild! Life on the Mountain</i> • <i>A “Peak” Back in Time</i> • <i>Great Hill Detectives</i> 	<p>Join the Park Interpreter for our Weekend Summit Series. Several different nature and history topics are explored every weekend. All of the following talks take place at the summit next to the fire tower and are 30 to 45 minutes long. All children must be accompanied by a parent/ adult guardian. The programs are free, but there is a \$5.00 fee to drive on the Auto Road to the summit (\$6.00 for non-Massachusetts vehicles).</p> <p>The Weekend Summit Series does not involve hiking.</p> <p>Wheelchair accessible.</p> <p><u>The Forest Before Us:</u> Can’t see the forest for the trees? We can help. Join us as we talk about forest growth from meadow to maturity, with a special focus on the unique old growth forests of Wachusett Mountain.</p> <p><u>Wild! Life on the Mountain:</u> Predator... or prey? Discover the fascinating lives of the “locals” as we talk about wildlife habitats, competition, and survival on Wachusett Mountain.</p> <p><u>A “Peak” Back in Time:</u> Join us as we journey through time to Wachusett Mountain’s past. We’ll explore the captivating history of the Summit House, the Civilian Conservation Corps, and so much more.</p> <p><u>Great Hill Detectives:</u> Investigate the mysteries of the mountain as we unwrap pieces of history and learn about their significance. Discover the secrets of “The Great Hill” we know as Wachusett Mountain. Drop in for a few minutes or stay for the whole program... it’s up to you!</p>
<p>Tree I.D. Walk</p>	<p>Join a park interpreter on a leisurely trail walk at Mount Wachusett. You will learn how to use leaves and bark to identify common species of deciduous and coniferous trees. We will also discuss forest ecology and succession of species to help us understand the makeup of a forest. As an added bonus, we will point out characteristics of old-growth trees to help you learn how to recognize them. The program will meet at the Mount Wachusett State Reservation Visitor Center. We will walk approximately 1 mile, round trip, on moderately strenuous terrain, so be sure to wear adequate footwear. All children must be accompanied by a parent/ adult guardian. The program is free, but there is a \$5 parking fee at the Visitor Center (\$6 for out-of-state plates).</p>

<p><u>Special Event</u> Saturday, July 1 Massachusetts Walking Tour Free Concert</p>	<p>Join us for a free concert to celebrate the recreation of Henry David Thoreau's historic 1842 walk from Concord to Wachusett Mountain. The concert will take place at Mount Wachusett State Reservation Visitor Center from 6:00pm to 8:00pm on July 1st. Performances will be by the Massachusetts Walking Tour, and local musical artists. This special event is part of a nationwide celebration of the bicentennial of the birth of Henry David Thoreau, who is considered the founder of the conservation movement in this country.</p>
<p><u>Special Program</u> Saturday, July 15 In the Footsteps of a Giant: Henry David Thoreau at Mount Wachusett</p>	<p>We invite you to join a DCR Park Interpreter at Wachusett Mountain State Reservation on Saturday, July 15 at 11:00am for "In the Footsteps of a Giant," a program celebrating the 2017 bicentennial of Henry David Thoreau's birth.</p> <p>Thoreau walked from his hometown of Concord Massachusetts and climbed Wachusett Mountain in 1842. Come join us as we relive part of his historic hike.</p> <p>This event will include an interpretive program at the summit and then an optional hike to explore part of the route Thoreau took on his famous walk to Wachusett.</p> <p>Meet the Park Interpreter at the Wachusett Mountain Summit next to the fire tower at 11:00am to enjoy readings from the great author and naturalist Henry David Thoreau and to discover information about his life and writings.</p> <p>For those who wish to take part, the second portion of the program will begin immediately following the summit program. It will be an optional hike from the summit along part of the path that Henry David Thoreau followed in 1842. The hike will begin at the summit at 11:30am and will take approximately 1½ hours, covering about one mile, with stops for readings along the way. The Park Interpreter will also share insights into the natural history of Wachusett Mountain. The hike is fairly strenuous, with some steep and rocky stretches, so be prepared.</p> <p>You may drive up the Summit Parkway to attend the program, but there is limited parking in the summit lot, so please plan accordingly. Please note that the program is free, but there is a \$5 fee to drive to the summit for MA vehicles or \$6 for out-of-state vehicles. For more information please call 978-464-2987.</p> <p>This DCR program is being presented as part of the "Thoreau Bicentennial Statewide Read," co-sponsored by The Walden Woods Project, University of Massachusetts Lowell Honors College, Massachusetts Center for the Book, and Freedom's Way National Heritage Area.</p>

